



**Newsletter
Issue 3
1st December 2017**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Welcome to the third issue of the Club's newsletter.

A great deal of time has passed since issue 2 and as we fast approach the start of the Club's fourth year, I thought it time to review what the club has been up to and to preview what is planned for 2018. For the sake of completeness I have included the events and meetings covered in issue 2.

I hope Santa is kind to you all and remembers to bring that long anticipated all important new piece of radio equipment from your nearest and dearest.

Ed.

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EVENTS 2017

January: RNLI SOS DAY. Operating as GB1TYC from the Thurrock Yacht Club on HF and VHF to raise funds for and awareness of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.



A calm but rather chilly day. Unfortunately the tide was out when the lifeboat was able to attend so we had to make do with a friendly wave from the crew at the closest they could get to shore.

March: ESSEX 2 METRE ACTIVITY AFTERNOON on FM, CW, SSB and SSTV

June: HORNDON FEAST AND FAYRE. Operating as GB2HFF on HF & VHF in the churchyard of Ss. Peter and Paul, Horndon-on-the-Hill.



GB2HFF

Horndon Feast and Fayre
Church of Saints Peter & Paul
Horndon-on-the-Hill
LOC: JO01EM WAB: TQ68

Horndon Feast and Fayre is a traditional event dating back to the 15th Century when the village was granted a Royal Charter to hold a feast and celebration on the last weekend of June.
The event was revived in 1974 when a descendant of the original squire of the area was asked to preside over a pleasantly warm weekend and about a dozen runners attempting the first ever Horndon 10k. This somewhat gruelling yet enjoyable challenge has now become a highlight of the weekend's activities and brings scores of serious athletes and fun runners back to Horndon.



Stella and Chris working HF. A slightly breezy day, but at least it didn't pour with rain like last year year.

August: ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST. Operating as GB1EWT at the Thurrock Thameside Nature Reserve, Mucking, near Stanford-le-Hope.



A very warm and pleasant day but very few visitors. However, some fellow hams just happened to be passing by (honestly) and stopped to chat for a while.

November: ESSEX 2 METRE ACTIVITY AFTERNOON on FM, CW and SSB.



Is Santa planning his route on Google Earth? No, he's just checking the long range forecast.

2018 PROGRAMME

The latest programme updates can be found under the "Programme" tab on the Club website at www.taarc.co.uk

January:

16th – MEETING 49:

February:

20th – MEETING 50:

March:

20th – MEETING 51: AGM and SNACK & CHAT

24th - 2 METRE ACTIVITY AFTERNOON

April:

17th - MEETING 52:

May:

1st - 31st - RNLI SOS MONTH

15th - MEETING 53:

June:

7th – MEETING 54:

23rd – HORNDON FEAST & FAYRE

July:

17th – MEETING 55:

August:

21st – MEETING 56: ON THE AIR

25th – ESSEX WILDLIFE TRUST

September:

18th – MEETING 57:

October:

16th – MEETING 58:

November:

17th – 2 METRE ACTIVITY AFTERNOON

29th – MEETING 59:

December:

18th – MEETING 60: SNACK & CHAT

Club Open Nets:

2 metre CW net – *most* Mondays at 19:30

2 metre SSTV - 1st Tuesday of each month at 19:30

2 metre FM – every Thursday at 19:30

MEETINGS 2017

January: USING TEST METERS by Steve G4HXY



Steve brought along a selection of meters and explained how they should be used, how to avoid measurement errors and avoid damage to the instrument by connecting correctly and selecting the correct range.

February: THIRTY YEARS IN 30 MINUTES! The changing face of amateur radio by Nick G4HCK



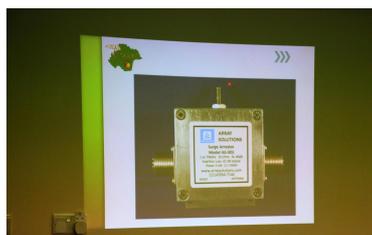
Nick talked about his experience of the changes to ham radio technology over the last 30 years.

March: AGM and SPRING SOCIAL EVENING



Nick was awarded honorary life membership for his exceptional service as the first Chair of the club. Gordon M0WJL was elected to take over from Nick. John G4LTH was elected Vice-chair with Dave M5ABP taking over as Secretary and Simon MIGGY continuing as treasurer.

April: LIGHTNING PROTECTION by Steve G4HXY



Steve introduced the subject of lightning protection with a demonstration using a Megga to simulate static discharges.

May: CLUB NIGHT, ON AIR



Dave M5ABP with his neat portable set up complete with Morse key and vertical antenna.

And finally ...



from Thurrock Acorns ARC

June: SUMMER SNACK & CHAT EVENING

July: A MIXED BAG, including a fun quiz



Can you guess which team won the quiz? Answers on a note to Santa at the North Pole please.

August: BROADCAST RADIO, part 2 – on the air by Pete M0PSX



Pete continued his talk about his broadcaster days, this time with it being repeated on air. Isn't modern technology wonderful!

September: AUTUMN SNACK & CHAT EVENING



A little of something for everyone. Nobody need go home hungry after one of our Snack and Chat evenings.

October: CLUB NIGHT, ON AIR



The bands were particularly noisy and contacts were scarce. Next year we'll have an "on air" night in the summer and weather permitting work outside. Here's hoping for an improvement in sunspot activity in the not too distant future.

November: ACTIVATING SCOTTISH ISLANDS by John G4LTH



John gave the members a talk illustrated by still shots and video of his WAB trip to the uninhabited islands off the coast of Scotland.